GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5169
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
CLASSIFICATION OF AGRICULTUTAL LABOURS
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural labours are classified as skilled and semi-skilled labours;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor indicating athe definition of skilled semi-skilled and un-skilled labour;

(c) whether any study has ever been conducted/proposed to be conducted on the nature of work and skill of the agricultural labour ;

(d) if not, whether the Government would soon conduct a study and survey of the skill, condition and nature of work of agricultural labour; and

(e) the number of agricultural labour State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a) to (d): Under the Census, the skill levels of agricultural labourers have not been defined. However, the employees employed in agriculture have been categorised and defined among wothers as unskilled, semi skilled and skilled under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

As per the Act, `unskilled work` means work which involves simple operations requiring little or no skill or experience on the bon. `Semi-skilled` work means work which involves some degree of skill or competence acquired through experience on the job and which is capable of being performed under supervision or guidance of a skilled employee, and includes unkilled supervisory work. `Skilled work` means work which involves skill or competence acquired through experience on the job or through training as an apprentice in a technical or vocational institute and performance of which calls for initiative and judgement. The exhaustive list of occupations in each category has been notified in the Official Gazette No. S.O.1085(e) dated 11.11.99.

(e): A Statement is annexed.